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the country as a whole we are forced to the conclusion that the health of the country is far below what it ought to be. This is especially true when one considers and weighs the fact that only 65 per cent of our young men are found physically fit for military duty by physical examinations by draft board and camp surgeons and over 21 per cent physically disqualified for any kind of military service, even of the limited or unlimited class. These conditions are not confined to any one section of the country. There is no great difference in the ratios for the North, South, East, or West, urban or rural, native or foreign born. In fact, some of our previously formed conclusions, generally accepted as facts, as to the healthfulness of the several sections of the United States may have to be revised somewhat. Thus we face the striking fact that when the rejections made by the camp surgeons are included less than 52 per cent of the registrants in the State of Washington are in Group A as compared with over 73 per cent in Group A for the State of Arkansas, and this despite the fact that Washington enjoys the lowest death rate of any State in the Union. Again, taking some of the findings from New England, usually considered one of the most healthful sections of the country, we observe that in Massachusetts less than 53 per cent of the registrants are in Group A, in Vermont less than 52 per cent, and in Maine less than 62 per cent, whereas the southern section of the United States shows that Oklahoma furnished over 77 per cent in Group A, Arkansas over 73 per cent, and Alabama over 66 per cent.

The figures from all sections of the country are sufficiently appalling to show that it is of the greatest importance for the whole Nation to realize that it is high time to search out the causes of this physical unfitness and find the proper remedies. It is the supreme duty of all agencies, national, State, and local, to work together to these ends.

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## EPIDEMIC INFLUENZA.

### PREVALENCE IN THE UNITED STATES.

A slight reduction in the number of cases of influenza in the United States is indicated by telegraphic reports from State health officers and from officers of the Public Health Service in charge of civil zones around army camps. (See pp. 642 and 647.)

The number of cases reported is not large. For the week ended March 22, 1919, slight increases in the number of cases were reported from Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Oregon, Vermont and Washington. Decreases were reported from Alabama, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, and Virginia.